

## Town of Arlington, Massachusetts 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476 Phone: 781-316-3000

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## 04/09/2012 Minutes

Diversity Task Group (DTG) Minutes: April 9, 2012 Approved May 14, 2012 meeting

Present: Claire Carswell, Cheryl Hamilton, Mary Harrison, Jane Howard, Carmen Medeiros, Tarajee Pass, Miriam Stein

Minutes from 3/12/12 meeting accepted as amended.

Town Survey responses included names of 11 people who indicated an interest in DTG. Three committee members agreed to call those people.

New co-chairs of the committee are Claire Carswell and Tarajee Pass. They will chair the next meeting.

The group suggested a number of ways DTG might work toward their goal of creating a welcoming community. These included partnering with realtors to welcome newcomers, encouraging restaurants or groups to hold events that would bring people together and help townspeople learn about different Arlington neighborhoods, maintaining a calendar of diversity-related events happening in Town, holding mini-exhibits in different parts of Town to encourage interaction.

Discussion focused on another idea: inviting Arlington residents and people who work in Arlington to submit a photo or picture and a brief essay describing what welcoming/being welcomed means to them. If this is done as a contest, DTG would need to find judges for it. The photos and essays could be displayed at Town Day or in a 2nd floor gallery of Town Hall.

The group briefly discussed participation on the DTG. Tarajee raised the question: what does DTG need to do to attract and retain members?